

03-465

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for interpreting input on a X input multi-stage HVAC & R system to control Y stages of said system, wherein Y is greater than X, comprising the steps of:

receiving input from X inputs;

translating said input into a binary system having Y binary outputs; and

controlling said system based upon said binary outputs.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said system has 2 inputs and 3 stages, and wherein said binary outputs allow said system to be operated with each of 0, 1, 2 and 3 of said stages active.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages are vapor compression circuits.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages are adapted to provide at least one of heating, cooling and combinations thereof.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said stages include both heating and cooling stages.

6. An HVAC & R system, comprising:

a multi-stage system having X inputs; and Y stages, and wherein Y is greater than X; and

a processor adapted to receive said X inputs, translate said X inputs into a binary system, and use said binary system to control said Y stages.

03-465

7. The system of claim 6, wherein said system has 2 inputs and 3 stages, and wherein said binary outputs allow said system to be operated with each of 0, 1, 2 and 3 of said stages active.

8. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages are vapor compression circuits.

9. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages are adapted to provide at least one of heating, cooling and combinations thereof.

10. The system of claim 6, wherein said stages include both heating and cooling stages.

11. The system of claim 6, further comprising an input member communicated with said system for providing said X input to said processor.